

FEB 16 1967

Sanitized - Approved For Release

FOIAb3b
0034-4

U.S. to Review Agency-Student Links

FOIAb3b

Johnson Acts to Protect Academic Community; Hill Seeks CIA Probe

By J. Y. Smith and John Maffre
Washington Post Staff Writers

President Johnson yesterday responded to the furor over CIA penetration of student groups by calling for a review of Government operations that could endanger the "integrity and independence" of the Nation's educational community.

The announcement was made by Acting Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach following the disclosure Monday that the Central Intelligence Agency has provided secret funds to the National Student Association since 1952.

On Capitol Hill, demands for an investigation of CIA activities mushroomed. Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.) called for a select Senate Committee to look into the Agency's links with domestic organizations. There were similar calls in the House.

Katzenbach's announcement made no direct mention of the CIA. The scope of the "careful review" ordered by the President was not spelled out.

The announcement said Mr. Johnson had directed Katzenbach, in consultation with Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare John W. Gardner and CIA Director Richard Helms, to formulate a policy

which will provide necessary guidance for Government agencies in their relationship to the international activities of American educational organizations."

Will Contact Congress

State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said the panel would "naturally... be in contact with interested and appropriate members of Congress and other officials in Government who may have contributions to make."

Moreover, it was noted, Katzenbach's announcement left open the possibility that the review would include Government operations in other than educational organizations. It read:

"The President recognizes the great need of America's private organizations to participate in the world community."

"Other countries provide substantial subsidies for such activities. He has asked me to explore means for assuring that U.S. organizations play their proper and vital role."

As explained by U.S. officials, the reason for the secret

CIA subsidy to the NSA was growing Communist propaganda activity among youth groups. American students, they said, were short of funds to enable them to counter this propaganda. So the CIA began supplying money to NSA secretly. The dole had to be secret, the officials added, because otherwise the credibility of the students would have been damaged.

Katzenbach issued his announcement after the White House said questions concerning the situation should be referred to him. In the meantime, newsmen, through McCloskey, addressed a number of questions to him.

Among those not answered by the announcement were:

- Whether reports that the White House had ordered a halt in CIA contributions to the NSA were true. According to some estimates, the subsidy went as high as \$400,000 in some years.

- Whether the CIA has penetrated other youth or private groups besides the NSA.

It is understood that Katzenbach, Gardner and Helms had been working on the CIA-NSA problem since shortly before the covert relationship came to light.

The announcement yesterday, which merely made the role of the three official, said President Johnson "believes strongly that the integrity and

independence of the educational community must be preserved."

On Capitol Hill, Sen. McCarthy told a press conference that his call for a select Senate committee of seven or eight members to probe the CIA was "not an anti-Agency action."

But he said that since the

late John Foster Dulles became Secretary of State in the Eisenhower Administration and his brother, Allen, had become head of the CIA, the organization had gone beyond its proper function of gathering intelligence and making it available to branches of the Government.

McCarthy pointed out that the National Security Act of 1947, which set up the CIA, was unclear on its domestic activities. The law says the Agency "shall have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers, or internal-security functions" inside the United States. But this apparently would not bar subsidizing organizations such as NSA.

In the House, a call to set up a watchdog committee came from liberal Rep. William F. Ryan (D-N.Y.) and also from Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.), who said his committee—Foreign Affairs—should join with its Senate counterpart and with the Armed Services bodies of both Houses to carry out an inquiry.

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000400280034-4

FOIAb3b